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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: *Dave Frederickson et al.*

Group No.: 1772

U.S. Serial No. 09/633,846

Examiner: Catherine A. Simone

Filed: August 7, 2000

For: POWDER COATED STRAP AND
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Attorney
Docket No: 12368 (6365/79201)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO
CONTINUING PROSECUTION APPLICATION**

Box CPA
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the present CPA is requested. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, reexamination and allowance of claims 16 and 20-22 in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

16. (Amended) A corrosion-resistant coated and cured strap comprising: an elongated metal strap base element, the metal strap base element having a width defining first and second sides and a thickness defining a pair of opposing edge regions; and a melted and cured powder coating on the base element, the coating having a first substantially consistent thickness at the first and second sides and a second substantially consistent thickness at the edge regions, the first and second thicknesses being different from one



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